

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 171724
ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 DLOS-09 L-03 PRS-01 IO-13
USIE-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-07 EUR-12
ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00
CIAE-00 EPG-02 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07
EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07
INT-05 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01
PM-05 SP-02 SS-15 /156 R

DRAFTED BY S/AR:A JAMES
APPROVED BY S/AR:A JAMES
D/LOS:G TAFT
L/OES:B OXMAN
L/OES:T LEITZELL
NEA/INS:R F OBER

-----039327 221750Z /46

O 221727Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 171724

FOR AMBASSADOR GOHEEN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: LOS

SUBJECT: LAW OF THE SEA

REF: NEW DELHI 10337

1. WE APPRECIATE YOUR PERSONALLY CONVEYING AMBASSADOR
RICHARDSON'S PERSONAL MESSAGE AND PRESS STATEMENT TO LAW
MINISTER BHUSHAN.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 171724

2. AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON IS BRIEFLY ABSENT FROM WASHINGTON.
THE FOLLOWING ASSESSMENT OF INDIAN ROLE IN RECENTLY CON-
CLUDED SIXTH SESSION OF THE LOS CONFERENCE REPRESENTS THE
APPRECIATION OF SENIOR US OFFICIALS ON THE US DELEGATION.
WE HOPE IT WILL BE USEFUL TO YOU IF LAW OF THE SEA IS DIS-
CUSSED AT YOUR DINNER FOR THE LAW MINISTER.

3. WE WERE IMPRESSED BY THE FACT THAT THE INDIAN DELEGATION AND JAGOTA IN PARTICULAR WERE LESS ACTIVE THAN AT PAST SESSION. THE INDIANS WERE CAREFUL IN MOST OF THEIR STATEMENTS, ALTHOUGH NOT HELPFUL TO US INTERESTS. FRANKLY, THE MOST HELPFUL THING THEY DID WAS NOT TO BE VISIBLY ACTIVE. THEY CONTINUED TO SUPPORT THE STAGGER SYSTEM FOR AWARD OF CONTRACTS TO CONDUCT SEABED MINING BUT WITHOUT THE SAME VIGOR AS IN THE INTERSESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS IN GENEVA LAST WINTER. THE US COULD NOT ACCEPT THE PROPOSALS THE INDIANS MADE ON FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS TO BE APPLIED TO CONTRACTORS --PROPOSALS WHICH WOULD CLEARLY HAVE MADE INVESTMENT IN SEABED MINING PROHIBITIVELY UNATTRACTIVE, AND WHICH WERE VIGOROUSLY DEFENDED BY THE INDIANS. IN COMMITTEE II THE INDIANS WERE NOT PARTICULARLY ACTIVE. THEY DID NOT, FOR EXAMPLE, OPPOSE THE US IN OUR ATTEMPTS TO CLARIFY THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE SO THAT HIGH SEAS FREEDOMS WOULD BE ASSURED IN THE EEZ. WHETHER THIS WAS BY DESIGN TO HELP THE US OR WHETHER THEY WERE RETICENT TO TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN VIEW OF THEIR UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THE VIEWS OF THE NEW INDIAN GOVERNMENT IS DIFFICULT TO STATE. IN COMMITTEE III, JAGOTA OPPOSED US EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE NEGOTIATING TEXT WITH REGARD TO CONDUCT OF MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, BUT, ONCE AGAIN, WAS NOT AS ACTIVE IN OPPOSITION AS IN PREVIOUS CONFERENCE SESSIONS.

4. IN SUM, INDIA CONTINUED TO OPPOSE THE US ON MANY ISSUES
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 171724

BUT NOT WITH AS MUCH VIGOR AS ON OTHER OCCASIONS. JAGOTA WAS PART OF A SMALL NEGOTIATING GROUP THAT WORKED ON THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE ECONOMIC ZONE AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH. WHILE HE DID NOT SUPPORT OUR SUBSTANTIVE POSITIONS, HE DID NOT RPT NOT OPPOSE THE RESULTS OF THAT NEGOTIATING GROUP WHEN THE RESULTS WERE PRESENTED IN FULL COMMITTEE. CERTAIN OTHER PARTICIPATING DELEGATIONS DID NOT EXERCISE SUCH RESTRAINT, THUS INCREASING THE DIFFICULTY OF ACHIEVING COMPROMISES IN THE NEW TEXT.

5. IN YOUR CONVERSATION WITH BHUSHAN WE THINK THE CENTRAL POINT YOU MAY WISH TO MAKE IS THAT WE WOULD HOPE IN THE FUTURE FOR INDIAN COOPERATION AND SUPPORT FOR FAIR PROCEDURES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CONSENSUS ON A BALANCED TEXT ON SEABED MINING. IT IS ESSENTIAL IN ANY CASE THAT THE INDIANS CLEARLY UNDERSTAND HOW STRONGLY THE US OBJECTS TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE COMPOSITE TEXT ON SEABED MINING, AS SPELLED OUT IN AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON'S PRESS STATEMENT (STATE 169685). VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE171724
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: A JAMES
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770262-0715
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770728/aaaaaxop.tel
Line Count: 113
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8fb05b65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 NEW DELHI 10337
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1772377
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LAW OF THE SEA
TAGS: PLOS, IN, (RICHARDSON, ELLIOT L)
To: NEW DELHI
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8fb05b65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009